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HARD WORK IS FUN, A COLLECTION OF COMPOSITIONS WRITTEN DURING THE 1966-1967 SCHOOL YEAR.

NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BROOKLYN, N.Y.

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THE COMPOSITIONS IN THIS COLLECTION WERE WRITTEN BY STUDENTS IN A SECOND-GRADE CLASS IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN A DISADVANTAGED AREA IN NEW YORK CITY. THE CHILDREN SET THE TYPE, MADE THE LINOLEUM BLOCK ILLUSTRATIONS, PRINTED THE PAGES, AND BOUND THE BOOKLET. THE COLLECTION CONTAINS POEMS, COMPOSITIONS, AND LETTERS ON THE THEMES OF "HAPPY THOUGHTS," A TRIP TO THE MOON, BEING INVISIBLE, HALLOWEEN, LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS, A TRIP TO A MUSEUM, HEROES AND HEROINES, THE WEATHER AND THE SEASONS, AND WORK IN THE SCHOOL SHOP. (NH)

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Hard Work Is Fun

by

The Students of Class 2-6
The Richard Montgomery School
Public School 168 Manhattan
316 East 105th Street
New York City 10029

Written, composed, illustrated, printed and bound by the students of Class 2-6, P. S. 168

A collection of compositions written during the 1966-1967 school year.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Elizabeth O'Daly
Assistant Superintendent - More Effective Schools Program

Edward Scalea
Assistant Superintendent - District 2

Sol Lubow
Principal - P.S. 168 Manhattan

Shirley Orenstein
Teacher - Class 2-6

Robert Boily
Industrial Arts Consultant

To The Reader

During the spring term Class 2-6 studied about ways people communicate. The children learned about the picture and sign language of yesterday, the inventions of today and new inventions that will lead to better communication among nations of the world in the future. As part of their unit the children explored the power of words and discovered the wonder of the printing press. As a culminating activity the youngsters made their own book. It is the childrens' work from beginning to end. It includes compositions they wrote during the second grade. Under the guidance of their Industrial Arts instructor, the children were taught to set type, make linoleum block illustrations, use the printing press, collate the pages, and bind the book.

Class 2-6 would like to take this opportunity to thank our principal, Mr. Lubow, for working so hard to secure a shop for our school. We thank our Industrial Arts teacher, Mr. Boily, for teaching us new skills and helping us with our project. This was truly a wonderful experience for all of us!

Class 2 - 6 & Miss Shirley R. Orenstein

Happy Thoughts

Happy Thoughts

These are the things that make us happy:

Getting a commendation
Making models in shop
Going to school
Seeing people smiling
Having the whole family together
Having big brothers and sisters
Learning new words
Knowing how to read
Making a snowman
Getting a picture taken
Going to the library
Reading many books
Being a smart boy
Having enough to eat
Having a baby sister
Being smart enough to go to college
Having a fairy godmother
Coming to school on time
Watching Batman on T.V.
Getting lots of homework
Being well
Visiting friends
Having money
Having the people you love near you
Being on television again
Having your own room

Class 2-6

I Wish

Oh, how I wish I had a coat and shoes. All of a sudden my fairy godmother appeared. She gave me a pretty coat and pretty shoes. My coat is red and my shoes are golden and shiny. They are too beautiful for me to look at. They are so pretty that I would put them away. I like them so much that I would not wear them. All I can say is they are beautiful, beautiful beautiful, beautiful, beautiful!

Patricia Johnson

A Trip to the Moon

A Trip to the Moon

A Trip to the Moon

I want to go to the moon. I will need lots of things. I will go by a rocket. On the moon I will find space houses. I will ride back safely. I do not believe that Martians and monsters are up in space. I want to go to space because I'd like to float around. I think it is a funny feeling.

Ronald King

A Trip to the Moon

I will take sandwiches.
Will I see a man on the moon there?
Will I find people up there?
What will I do up there?

Keith Grant

A Trip to the Moon

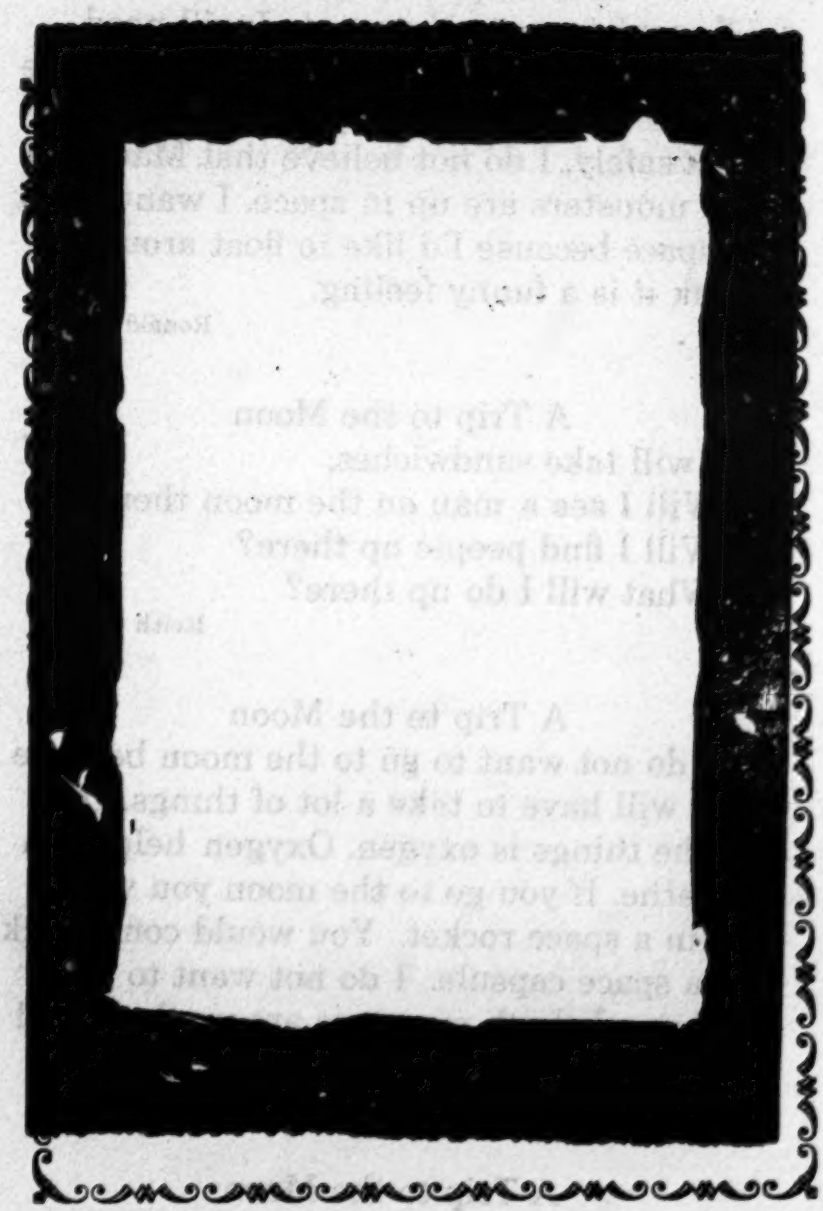
I do not want to go to the moon because you will have to take a lot of things. One of the things is oxygen. Oxygen helps you breathe. If you go to the moon you would go in a space rocket. You would come back in a space capsule. I do not want to go because I think monsters are up there and holes too.

Lisa Aviles

A Trip to the Moon

I would not like to go to the moon because I am scared. I might see monsters there. I would not want to float in space. I would get dizzy.

Lance Burns



The Day I Was Invisible

Tne Day I Was Invisible

One day I asked my fairy godmother if I could be invisible just for one day. Then she told me to go to the pond and turn around five times. So I did. Then I couldn't see myself so I went for a walk. I heard a lion roaring. I told myself, "The lion can not see me so I'll play a game on him. I will talk to him and that will make him scared. I am going to play dirty tricks on people." Soon I decided I was doing bad things so I told my fairy godmother to change me to my own self.

Sally Rodriguez

The Day I Was Invisible

If I were invisible I would play a trick on my brother. If he had a glass of water in his hand I would pull it through the back and the glass would break. I would scare my brother. I'd stay invisible forever.

Evelyn Puente

The Day I Was Invisible

One day I spun around and around and then I was invisible. I was thinking of the things that I could do if I were invisible. I could open doors and play all I want to. I could go to all kinds of places. I could knock on doors and say boo and scare people. I could pull a dog's legs. Then he would chase me. Then I became myself. I started to run faster and faster and I got dizzy.

Angel Cruz

The Day I Was Invisible

On Sunday I took a pill and I swallowed it. Then smoke came all over me in one minute. Soon I just disappeared. I had fun playing tricks on people. First I ate all the ice cream and then I took some more. Then I went outside when it was snowing and I was stuck in the snow. I had one more pill. Then I was back to myself. I would never take a pill again.

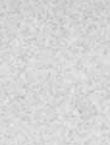
Fay Miles

Boo !

Boo!

I like Halloween. My friends like Halloween. I dress up in a Zorro costume. I like going trick or treating. Everyone gives me candy and money. There is a witch on the 15th floor of the house where I go trick or treating. I leave her door alone. Halloween night is fun because I can go trick or treating. Trick or treating is lots of fun.

Elvin Padilla



Boo!

On Halloween I dressed up as Batman. I went out to play. My friends and I went trick or treating. People gave us candy and money and surprises. One of my friends dressed as Frankenstein. Another was a witch. Another was a gorilla. We went out to play and have fun.

Pedro Torruellas

Boo!

On Halloween night I dressed up as the Green Hornet. I went to houses trick or treating. The people gave me money and candy. My friends and I went from one house to another. We went downstairs to scare people with our costumes. We stayed out until nine o'clock. I went home and told my mother what we did. Then I counted the money. I had $3.00. My friends and I can't wait until next Halloween so we can have more fun.

Jaime Dones

Dear Santa

Dear Santa Claus,

Don't rush. You might get sick. You might get high fever and then you can not come with the toys for the children to play with. How cold is it there, Santa?

Love,
Carlos Cotto

Dear Santa,

How are you, Santa Claus? I am very good, Santa Claus. You are a busy man, I know. What will you give me? Santa Claus, will you give me a toy that can't break? Will you please give me a toy?

Love,
Kevin Rivers

Dear Santa,

We thought that you might like to hear from us. How do you feel? How fast can you work? Santa brings toys to good boys, but not to bad boys. He watches for good girls, but not bad girls. I am good. I want a real watch.

Love,
Pedro Delestre

Dear Santa,

I love you, Santa Claus. Have a good rest. Then pack the toys. Come to my house and drink some coffee and cookies.

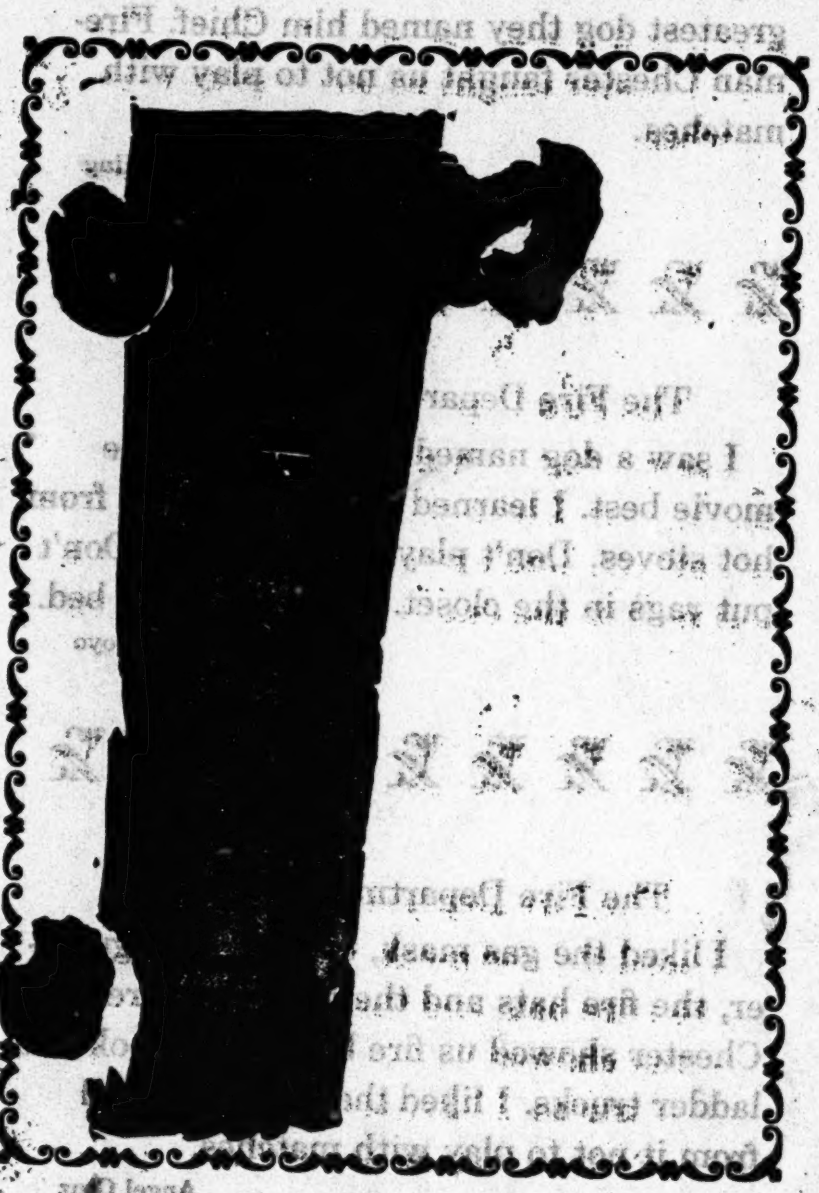
Love,
Charles Steward

Dear Santa Claus,

You are a very busy man. You have to make lots of toys for the children. Do your elves help you, Santa? I hope you are getting lots of rest. Please take it easy. You should not rush, Santa. I want Captain Action. I can read. I can find the words on the blackboard.

Love,
Lance Burns

The Fire Dep't. Museum



The Fire Department Museum

I heard that a dog saved three kittens and the mother cat. They put him in the museum because he was the greatest fire-dog of the world. Because he was the greatest dog they named him Chief. Fire-man Chester taught us not to play with matches.

Ronald King

The Fire Department Museum

I saw a dog named Chief. I liked the movie best. I learned this: Keep away from hot stoves. Don't play with matches. Don't put rags in the closet. Don't smoke in bed.

Sandra Arroyo

The Fire Department Museum

I liked the gas mask, the fire extinguish-er, the fire hats and the fire coat. Fireman Chester showed us fire boats and hook and ladder trucks. I liked the film. I learned from it not to play with matches.

Angel Cruz

My Hero

My Hero

What I want to be is a policeman. Why do I want to be a policeman? Because I help people cross the street. I will help the boys who are lost. I will check the stores. I will tell the cars when to stop and when to go. I will take robbers to jail. I will run after robbers. I will learn to help people. When I see a fire I will call the fireman to put out the fire. I will learn to help children.

Pedro Delestre

My Heroine

I want to be a doctor. I want to make people healthy. I will give them medicine. I will give them pills. They will get well.

Ketty Osorio

My Heroine

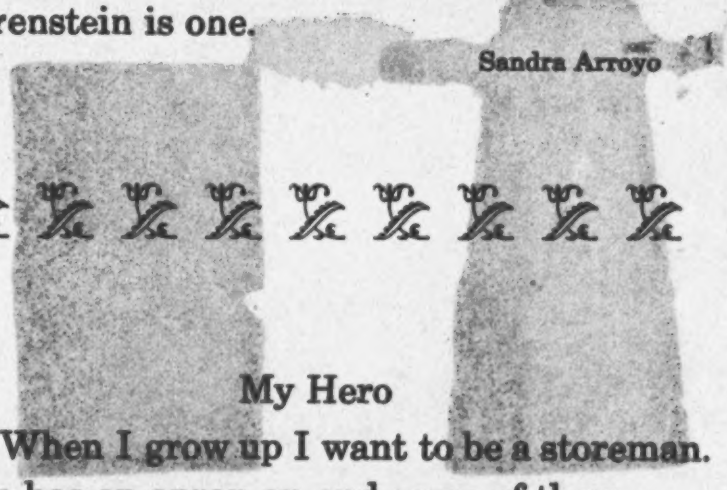
When I grow up I would like to be a nurse because I like the white dress and the white shoes. I'd like to be a nurse because I'd like to take care of the children that are sick in the hospital. I'd make food for all the children in the hospital. A needle makes children healthy. I'd give needles and take the children's temperature with the thermometer.

Sally Rodriguez

My Heroine

When I grow up I would like to be a teacher. I would like to be a teacher because I'd like the children to learn a lot. Even the teachers have to do a lot of work. The children think that the teacher has a little bit of work. I can't wait until I grow up and become a teacher. I don't care if I have to work hard. When I am a teacher I hope I do not have any bad children. I want to be a teacher because Miss Orenstein is one.

Sandra Arroyo



My Hero

When I grow up I want to be a storeman. He has an apron on and some of them have a shepherd's hat. When people come to buy I will sell them things. Then the people will pay the money. I do not stay open at night. I sell candy and other things. I have to weigh the fruits. I have to see how many pounds they weigh. Then I put it in a paper bag.

Ronald King

Hard Work is Fun

Hard Work Is Fun

My teacher taught us about how community helpers travel. Then we made models of cars in shop. Mr. Boily does not want any babies up in shop. We tried to trick him when we came up every day by walking on tiptoes. We are glad that we have a shop in our school. We do not scream. If we want something we raise our hand. We like the decorations up in shop. I made a helicopter. I'm proud of my model.

Ronald King

Hard Work Is Fun

I like to go to Mr. Boily' s shop because there are lots of tools. I used the tools to make a car. When I come up to Mr. Boily's shop I sneak in on tiptoes. He doesn't know I'm there. I like Mr. Boily because he helped me make a car. It is fun to go up to Mr. Boily's shop. I would like to go up to his shop again.

Charles Steward

Hard Work Is Fun

I enjoy going up to shop. It is fun going up there. Mr. Boily is a kind man. We are very good to him. My heart breaks when I don't go to shop. My feelings get happy when I go. I made an ambulance. The ambulance carries sick people to the hospital.

Patricia Johnson

Hard Work Is Fun

When I went up to shop I made a motorcycle with a saw, a sanding block and a file. Then I painted it red, black and white. Then I painted the wheels black-one in the front, two in the back. Then we had to put our aprons away. We had to get on line and wait for our teacher. I will keep on going up there because I love shop.

Linda Ward

Hard Work is Fun

I like to go up to Mr. Boily's shop. I made two horses. I used a long piece of wood. First I sawed the wood and then I traced the horse on it. Then I got the file and cut the wood. After that, I got the sandpaper and the sanding block. After the wood was smooth I filed it again. Then I painted it. It was a lot of fun. I would like to make other things in shop.

Kevin Rivers

Hard Work Is Fun

I love going up to shop. The model I am making is a train. This is how I made my train. First I listened to Mr. Boily's instructions. Next, I put on my apron. Then I got my tools. Then I went to my bench and took the saw and started sawing. Then I took the file and started filing and I cut a piece of wood with the saw. Then I painted. Mr. Boily is a friendly man. Shop is exciting. I like the way it looks inside the shop. Around the shop are different things. He has some puppets and some airplane models.

Lisa Aviles

The Big Snow

The Big Snow

I saw snow out in the street. The children were playing in the snow. The big ones were throwing snowballs. Then they all were going home to get dry.

Ketty Osorio

The Big Snow

One day it was snowing. I woke up and I saw these snowflakes. I dashed to my window and I looked out and it was snowing. I ate my breakfast, put on my gloves and my warm jacket. I got my sled and I went outside. I went up a hill and then I said,"Whee!" I got up again and made a snowman. Boy! Did I have fun! I came home looking like a snowman.

Linda Ward

A Big Snow

When I saw the snow I felt happy. I put my heavy clothes on and went down to play with the snow. I made a snowman with the snow. When I made a snowman my hands were very cold. I put my hands in my pockets to get them warm.

Joann Ramirez

The Big Snow

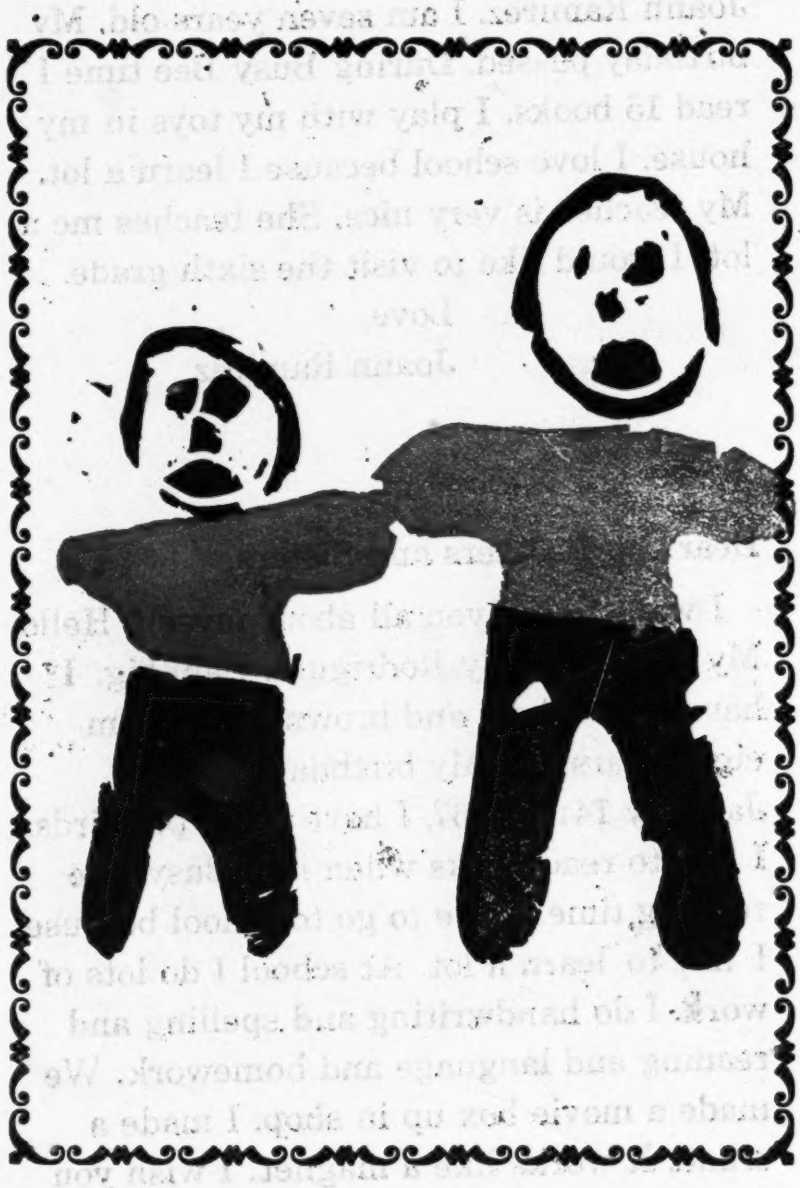
I would like to play in the snow and make a snowman. He will look alive. He will have hands, feet, boots and a carrot nose. I will make a pocket for him.

Keith Grant

The Big Snow

When I go outside and see all that snow I feel excited. When I first saw it I ran outside and made a snowman. This is how I made him. I took a snowball and made it bigger and stood it up. Then I made two more and stood them up, too. Then I brought out a black hat and put it on him. I put a carrot for a nose and a scarf around his neck. When I went back into the house I was cold. Then when I went to bed, I got warm.

Lisa Aviles



Our Big Brothers and Sisters

Dear Big Brothers and Sisters,

I'll tell you all about myself. My name is Joann Ramirez. I am seven years old. My birthday passed. During Busy Bee time I read 15 books. I play with my toys in my house. I love school because I learn a lot. My teacher is very nice. She teaches me a lot. I would like to visit the sixth grade.

Love,
Joann Ramirez

Dear Big Brothers and Sisters,

I want to tell you all about myself. Hello. My name is Sally Rodriguez. I am big. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am eight years old. My birthday was on January 14th, 1967. I have three pet birds. I like to read books when it is Busy Bee reading time. I like to go to school because I like to learn a lot. At school I do lots of work. I do handwriting and spelling and reading and language and homework. We made a movie box up in shop. I made a crane. It works like a magnet. I wish you would write to me.

Love,
Sally Rodriguez

Dear Big Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Pedro Delestre. I'm seven years old. What makes me happy is playing. What makes me sad is nobody to play with me. What I do in my home is play and do my homework and listen to my mother. When my mother says to buy milk I do it. When my mother says go out and play with Luis I do it. I listen to my father, too. Every time when I go on a trip my mother says yes. I like my mother. Every time my mother makes me a picnic. When I grow up I want to be a policeman I wish people will write a letter to me.

Your friend,
Pedro Delestre

Dear Big Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Sandra Arroyo. I am eight years old now. I am always laughing. I love you very much. I am always happy. I am never sad. I love school because I learn a lot and when I learn a lot I get smart. I like pets but I cannot have them because I live in the projects and you cannot have any pets there. I want to come upstairs so that I can see what your children do. I read 16 books since October. Please write back to me.

Love,
Sandra Arroyo

Hear the Wind Blow

Hear the Wind Blow

In the morning I could hear the wind blow. It seems to say, "You better not come downstairs or I will push you down." When I look out of the window I see the leaves of the trees moving. I know that the wind is blowing. I do not like to go out when the wind is blowing or I will catch a cold. The wind helps the kites and balloons go high in the sky. My little cousin does not like the wind. There are a lot of tornadoes in the West. It blows papers all around and also dust, houses and trees. If you have long hair your hair will fly all around. When the wind stops blowing the sanitation man has to go to work right away to clean the streets.

Lisa Aviles

Hear the Wind Blow

A hurricane can destroy houses. The hurricane comes here. I listen to the radio at my house. I tell my mother a hurricane is coming. I tell my father, too, when he comes from work. We will go away out of New York City. We will not come back. Every house and all the people are safe now. We are back in the city now. Mother and father are happy now. My mother finds a house to sleep in.

Ronnie Hickman

Hear the Wind Blow

March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. At the beginning of March the wind makes a loud roar and at the end of March it is gentle. When I went downstairs the wind pushed me and made me fall. The wind uproots the trees and makes them fall. It dries clothes. It makes people refreshed. It makes kites go high up in the sky. The tornado carries things away. The strong wind destroys things. A hurricane makes rain. A gust of wind is a puff of wind.

Ronald King

Hear the Wind Blow

I'm happy that March is here. I love the wind because it helps me go fast to school. When I went to the store to buy three candies for my sister and brother and myself the wind pushed me down. In the West there is a tornado that destroys all the houses and the cowboys will never ever have a home. The wind pushes my brother down. The wind moves people fast. When I go to the West and I see a tornado, I'll keep an eye on the tornado.

Pedro Delestre

A Trip to Never - Ever Land

A Trip to Never - Ever Land

One day I fell off a mountain and when I landed I was in Never - Ever Land. In Never - Ever Land things looked funny. The trees had white leaves. The houses were made of gingerbread. I could pull off candy and eat it. Candy grew on trees. Gold grew on the ground. I saw a fairy. She had a magic wand in her hand. She gave me a wish. I wished I was back home and I was back home. When I went home I went to bed and had a dream about Never-Ever Land.

Lisa Aviles

A Trip to Never - Ever Land

One day I was walking down the street. I saw a big pile of snow. I climbed into the pile of snow. I fell down and I got up. I looked up. I saw strange trees. I saw strange houses. I saw strange people. They were coming after me. I ran and ran. I got out of breath. Then I woke up. I said to my mother, "I'll always say my prayers."

Linda Ward

A Trip to Never - Ever Land

I had a dream all about a witch. The witch was trying to catch me. I jumped in the water. The witch turned the water into hay and I was stuck in it. Then my fairy godmother took me out. I went home.

Fay Miles

A Trip to Never - Ever Land

One day I had a dream that I had a fairy godmother. She had a magic wand. I said, "I want a magic airplane that can fly." It flew up in the air when I said, "Go, plane, go." Suddenly the plane fell down from my hand and disappeared. Then I said, "Come back." Then I got up from bed. I had a dream. I was glad that I dreamed about a fairy godmother. She made me happy. I wish I had asked for lots of candy and cookies and cake. Do you wish that? This could only happen in Never - Ever Land.

Angel Cruz

Get Well

Get Well

Dear Mrs. O'Daly,

I am sorry that you are in the hospital. I want to tell you what I have been doing in school. In school I have been learning how to read. I learn how to behave nicely. I am glad that we have a shop in our school. I wish that the other schools would have a shop, too. You are very nice and I would like to come to see you in the hospital but I have to stay in school to learn because I don't want to miss any of my lessons. Miss O'Malley's class is our Brother and Sister class. They will visit us today.

Love,
Linda Ward

Dear Mrs. O Daly,

I am sorry that you are sick. We hope you will be better soon. These are the stories I read at Busy Bee Reading Time. One book was Put Me in the Zoo. Another one was Surprise in the Tree. Another one is Billy and His Friends. There are some more books I have read. This is the way we do Busy Bee Reading. First we browse for a book. Then we read the book. Then we find five hard words. We use each one in a sentence. Then we write a book report.

Love,
Fay Miles

Dear Mrs. O'Daly,

I am very happy with you because you helped Mr. Lubow find Mr. Boily for the shop. I am very sorry you are sick in the hospital. I hope you will get better. When I go to shop I think about you. We made a television show. The men put a lot of bright lights on but I did not put my hands over my eyes. It was very exciting to be on television. We went on many trips. We are going to go to P. S. 146 M to see the Paper Bag Players. We went to see the carpenters. They were making a new door and window for one of the rooms. I made a train up in shop. I read a lot. The story I like best is Whizzer's Purple Tail. That was a funny story. Whizzer had a purple tail. He wanted purple ears. Then he fell into the paint and got purple all over. When you feel better I hope you come to visit us.

Love,
Lisa Aviles

Dear Mrs. O'Daly,

I am sorry that you are in the hospital. I hope you feel better. I like my teacher because she took us on a trip. Thank you for helping Mr. Lubow find a shop for us. We will go on a trip tomorrow. I thought my teacher was stuck on the highway in her car today because I didn't see her in the morning. I like to read books. I am trying to learn.

Love,
Charles Steward

Spring is Here!

Sping Is Here

Hurray! Spring is here at last! Hello. I am a caterpillar. One day in the winter I went to sleep in my cocoon. Then in the spring I woke up and I looked at myself in the mirror and what do you think I saw? I turned into a butterfly. I am so happy because from now on I don't have to walk. I can fly and visit all my neighbors.

Sally Rodriguez

Spring Is Here

Hello. My name is Jerry. I am a bird. I came back to the North because I want to keep the tree company. I came back North for another reason - because it was getting warmer here. I am going to build a nest. Then I will sing. I hope my little children will come out.

Lance Burns

Spring Is Here

I am a tree. I used to have no leaves but now I do have leaves. I am glad because birds will be coming from South to North finding trees to build their nests in. They'll pick my tree and I will be so happy. I will take care of the little birds when their mother goes to get worms for them to eat. People will sit under my tree when I have leaves.

Linda Ward

Spring Is Here

I am a rabbit. I have big ears. My fur is soft. I like to dig for carrots. I like to hop and hop all the way home, and I do. I am a sweet rabbit. I like to eat.

Evelyn Puente

Spring Is Here

When Easter comes I will buy eggs. I will dye eggs and hide them. The rabbits will come to find the eggs and the children will, too. All the children will find them. The rabbits cannot find them first because they are slow coming out of the woods. The eggs taste good. They look pretty.

Ronnie Hickman